

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on October 19, 2005.

Claims 1, 18, 35, and 36 have been amended, claims 4 and 21 have been canceled; as a result, claims 1, 2, 5-19, and 22-36 are now pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 4-7, 9-15, 18, 21-24 and 26-32, and 35-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by Akatsu et al. (U.S. 6,523,064). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claims under consideration. *In re Dillon*, 919 F.2d 688, 16 USPQ2d 1897, 1908 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (en banc), cert. denied, 500 U.S. 904 (1991).

Akatsu fails to disclose "a query, including a network address"

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 18, 35 and 36 are not anticipated because Akatsu simply fails to disclose each and every claimed element, e.g., "a query, including a network address" as recited in independent claims 1, 18, 35 and 36.

Apparently, the Examiner is relying on the Abstract, FIG. 8, and portions of the detailed description (col. 8, lines 32-60 and col. 11, line 4-62) to support his assertion that Akatsu discloses the elements in the first clause of claim 1 (*see* Final Office Action at page 3). However, in the Abstract, Applicants cannot find any description or disclosure of "a query, including a network address." The Abstract merely provides a vague description of a "request comprising a demand for information contained in the persistent data table." (*See* Akatsu at Abstract). Furthermore, FIG. 8 simply provides reference to a service controller 808, which apparently is capable of various network tasks (*see* Akatsu at col. 8, lines 45-52). However, again, the reference fails to provide description or disclosure of a query that includes a network address. Finally, Akatsu apparently discloses an address mapping table in the portion cited by the Final Office Action (*see* Akatsu at col. 11, lines 14-25). The mapping table is apparently

created when a bus reset occurs, upon which the IEEE 1394 driver receives unique node IDs from every node on the network (*see* Akatsu at col. 11, lines 14-19). According to the IEEE 1394-1995 specification, each node has a unique 64-bit identification number. The 1394 driver then uses each identification number to query the specific node for additional information to supplement the data in the mapping table (*see* Akatsu at col. 11, lines 20-23). However, this query does not use the identification number as a portion of the query, but rather as a means of addressing or directing the query to its proper destination. Thus, after reviewing the cited portions of Akatsu, Applicants cannot find the claimed element “a query, including a network address.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Akatsu fails to disclose “geolocation activities include[ing] tasking a plurality of data collection machines to collect data pertaining to the network address and mapping the network address to the geographic location based on the collected data”

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 18, 35 and 36 are not anticipated because Akatsu fails to disclose “geolocation activities include[ing] tasking a plurality of data collection machines to collect data pertaining to the network address and mapping the network address to the geographic location based on the collected data” as currently recited in independent claims 1, 18, 35 and 36.

The cited portions of Akatsu apparently describes a process that queries nodes on an IEEE 1394 network, receives a node ID or type, and constructs a node navigation tree 1900, which is then delivered to a video display unit. (*See* Akatsu at col. 11, line 28 to col. 12, line 58). However, the cited portions of Akatsu do not contain any disclosure or discussion of “tasking a plurality of data collection machines to collect data pertaining to the network address.” Akatsu merely discloses a “trigger,” such as a “‘menu’ button,” which can initiate the command and control process. (*See* Akatsu at col. 11, lines 38-39). Alternatively, “a stored procedure in a device residing in a home entertainment network 500” can be used to begin the process. (*See id.*).

Furthermore, the data collected by the “command and control transfer process” is not

used to “map[] the network address to the geographic location based on the collected data” as currently required in claim 1 and similarly required in claims 18, 35, and 36. Instead, the collected data is merely used to determine an appropriate icon and placement in a navigation tree. (See Akatsu at col. 11, line 28 to col. 12, line 58). The navigation tree 1900 as illustrated in FIGS. 16A and 16B in Akatsu is apparently arranged such that the components of a home entertainment system are displayed in a hierarchy based on their connectivity relationship – not to illustrate or display any geographic location or relationship.

Thus, because the cited portions of Akatsu fail to describe or disclose all elements of claims 1, 18, 35, and 36, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Summary

Claims 4-7, 9-17, 21-24 and 26-34 depend from independent claim 1 or 18 and incorporate all of the limitations therein, respectively. Claims 4-7, 9-17, 21-24 and 26-34 are also asserted to be allowable for the reasons presented above, and Applicants respectfully request notification of same. Applicants consider additional elements of claims 4-7, 9-17, 21-24 and 26-34 to further distinguish over the cited reference, and Applicants reserve the right to present arguments to this effect at a later date.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 2, 8, 19 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akatsu in view of Zoken et al (U.S. 5,944,787). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 8, 19, and 26 depend from independent claim 1 or 18 and incorporate all of the limitations therein, respectively. Claims 2, 8, 19, and 26 are also asserted to be allowable for the reasons presented above, and Applicants respectfully request notification of same. Applicants consider additional elements of claims 2, 8, 19, and 26 to further distinguish over the cited references, and Applicants reserve the right to present arguments to this effect at a later date.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16, 17, 33, and 34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 16, 17, 33, and 34 depend from claim 1 or claim 18. Because claims 1 and 18 are in condition for allowance, as discussed above; claims 16, 17, 33, 34 are also allowable as originally submitted since they are dependant upon claims which are believed to be allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16, 17, 33, 34 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims of the present application are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney Andre Marais at 408-278-4042 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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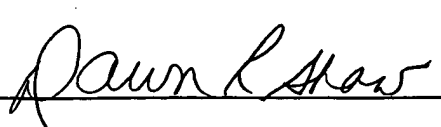

Andre Marais

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 17 day of February, 2006.

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Name



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